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The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending November 9, 1946

GREAT HANDWRITING TEST—*See Page 7*

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

EVERY TUESDAY — FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE — PRICE THREEPENCE

November 9, 1946
No 1442

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW AGAIN

Seven Centuries of Pageantry

HIDDEN away for safety during the war years, the famous gilt coach of London's Lord Mayor is once more to be drawn through the City streets on Saturday. It is the proudest vehicle in a historic procession.

The Lord Mayor's Show, as the procession is called, began in Magna Carta year. London had its mayors before that time, but it was in 1215 that King John agreed that the City of London should appoint its own Mayor, provided that such Mayor attended before the King, or his legal representatives, to have his appointment confirmed.

So in that year the Lord Mayor presented himself before the King at Westminster, and, accompanying him as a body-guard, there rode a host of London citizens. That was the beginning of the long series of Lord Mayor's Shows.

For the first two centuries the Mayor (Lord Mayor since 1354) and his attendant train reached Westminster either on foot or on horseback, but, beginning in 1453, there was a long succession of processions by water. Old records glow with the wonders and the often barbaric splendour of those pageants—the Lord Mayor in a stately barge ablaze with decorations, his supporters crowding after him in boats and barges, sometimes a hundred strong, with fiddles thrumming, drums beating, horns sounding, squibs fizzing, and guns firing.

The £10,000 Coach

Interrupted only from 1639 to 1655 owing to Puritan objections, in 1665 and 1666 owing to the Great Plague and the Great Fire, the Show went on by water or by horse. In 1711, however, Lord Mayor Sir Gilbert Heathcote was thrown from his horse while in the procession, so it was decided that future Lord Mayors should run no risks and a carriage was bought. This being considered too homely a vehicle for an occasion so august, in 1757 a special coach was built, resplendent with gilt and carved figures, and having a series of outer panels which were painted by Cipriani, a famous Italian artist. The total cost was £10,065 3s, a huge sum in those days. Owing to the rough roads in olden times this Cinderella dream-coach has, of course, since cost considerable sums for repairs.

Strange Cavalcade

A list of the outstanding features in these annual pageants would fill a book. London's boys and girls have gazed on figures and scenes representing pagan dieties and Christian virtues, demons and fairies, soldiers, sailors, and airmen, dwarfs, giants in wickerwork 15 feet high, industries, arts, crafts, the engines of war and machines of peace, the grave and the gay, the stimulating and the ludicrous—all making up, as it were, an almost continuous procession, seven centuries long. The Show today is a survival of the medieval cavalcades dear to a colour-loving people with a passion for pageantry.

But however absurd some of its features, the Show has always had a serious purpose at the root of all. The day has been a rejoicing over the proof that, with a new Lord Mayor, the old freedom of the City is assured by the royal acceptance of this man chosen by his fellow-citizens as head of a City which, subject to the common law, has for centuries been a self-governing community, with its own ruler, its own police, its own jealously-observed regulations. Assured of its freedom, London was for centuries the hope and inspiration of all beyond its boundaries who sought for similar freedom.

London always led the fight for liberty and human right, its Lord Mayor maintaining those rights even against the King. To this day, within the City, the Lord Mayor yields precedence only to the Sovereign.



The Lord Mayor's coach, designed 189 years ago

YOUNG FRANCE



Some of the 200 French children who, with their parents, were in the Underground Resistance Movement in France during the war, are here seen at Wren's Warren Camp in Kent, at the beginning of a happy, body-building holiday in England. There are several such camps in different parts of England.

Pigs in the Play-Pen

DID you ever take your pet to *school*? That is what the children of the West Indies are doing.

In Tobago and Trinidad clubs have been set up in some schools for owners of animals. All animals should be looked after in the right way and that is one of the reasons for the clubs. Schoolmasters and veterinary officers teach the owners how to feed their animals and keep them clean, and how to bring them up healthily. There are ponies and pigs, calves and foals, lambs and goats, and rabbits—any pet is welcome.

All the animals are brought to school for inspection once every month, and at the end of term prizes are given. Then, at the end of the year the school prize-winners compete for the honour of being the best in the district. This is great fun, but it has a serious side, too, for it means that in learning at the Juvenile Farm Club the proper care of their livestock they are gaining knowledge which will help them to be good farmers later on.

THE CAT ON THE RAILWAY

AN Ashford man returning home from Folkestone by train found that the only other occupant of his compartment was a large black-and-white cat. On the journey, the two travellers became friendly, and, thinking that the cat was a "stray," the man carried him in his coat to his home, more than a mile from the station. Having fed the animal, he made it a bed in an outbuilding.

Next morning the new member of the family was sitting outside the kitchen window, looking indoors and clearly indicating that he thought it was time for breakfast. When he returned home that night, however, the man was told that the cat had gone off during the morning and had not come back.

Three weeks later he was on the station at Ashford again, and there, washing himself on a platform seat, was his old fellow-traveller the cat!

An Indian Gesture

GRATITUDE TO FRENCH VILLAGERS

LAST Saturday in the little village of Etobon in Eastern France the High Commissioner for India unveiled a tablet commemorating "the gratitude of India to the citizens of Etobon and Chenebier for the help they gave to Indian prisoners-of-war who had escaped from the enemy during the German occupation of France. India mourns the gallant sons of these two villages who gave their lives in the common cause."

As a token of this gratitude India has contributed £1000 towards a joint library for Etobon and its neighbour, Chenebier.

The Great Escape

The Indians whom these villagers so gallantly helped came to them in 1944. In May that year there was a heavy air raid on Epinal, and in the ensuing confusion many Indian soldiers escaped from the German prisoner-of-war camp there. About 500 of them crossed into Switzerland, but between 150 and 200 were too weak to journey so far and took refuge in the woods near Etobon and Chenebier.

The villagers—at the risk of their lives—brought them food each day, gave them some of their own meagre tobacco ration, and provided them with wireless sets so that they could hear the war news. The womenfolk knitted woollen garments for the fugitives. They gave some of the Indians disguises and led them to the Swiss frontier. Later, many of the Indians, restored to strength, joined the Maquis and fought by the side of their French comrades against the invaders.

Then the Germans, who had long suspected the villagers, found out what they had been doing. They exacted a terrible revenge. More than 20 per cent of the male population were either murdered or deported for forced labour.

India has now paid a fitting homage to these heroic villagers.

Things Are Not Always What They Seem

A SIX-YEAR-OLD boy who lives in Schweizer-Reneke District of South Africa saw his pet mouse run down a hole. He began to dig the mouse out. His mother told him not to. He waited until Mother had gone, and then went on with his work. He came to the end of a tail. This he grasped and pulled, but finding that it would not come out, he called a native "boy" to help. When at last the hole was widened it was found that the small boy had grasped the tail of a large puff-adder. The snake was killed, and inside the snake was the pet mouse.

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THE PROBLEM OF GERMANY

IN a few days' time the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in New York will begin their talks on Germany. It will be an important date in the life of all Europe, because these discussions will mark the last lap on the road to peace.

No one can tell, of course, how long this final, but most difficult, stage may last. But, on the other hand, people all over the world, in America, Britain, France, and Russia, are very tired of what they call "bickering" and of the uncertainty which is due to an apparent lack of unity. They all want to get on with their everyday jobs.

The Foreign Ministers of Britain, the United States, Russia, and France will certainly feel that their own people wish them to settle all this peace-making business as quickly as possible. Again, they will have behind them the experience of drafting peace treaties with the lesser former enemies—Italy, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Finland—an experience which, many think, has been for the good of the world. It was good, some say, because it showed us what pitfalls can be expected and how they should be avoided.

There are, naturally, a number of very difficult problems connected with making peace with Germany. First of all, how shall we get a German Government and how can we be sure that this Government will be willing to fulfil its duties under the peace treaties?

Then the German frontiers have to be fixed. Is Poland to keep all she got from Germany? Is France going to stay in the Saar for good? How, too, should Germany be governed? Is she to become a strongly centralised State ruled from Berlin, or a federation like the U S?

The Foreign Ministers will also have to struggle through a lot of very difficult economic questions. They must be careful not to let Germany build war factories. But they will have to permit her to turn out goods which will be useful for the rebuilding of both her own country and the neighbouring European States.

Mr Bevin said recently that the best hope for a stable peace with Germany lay in the united effort by Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and America with the co-operation of the smaller Powers. He reminded the M Ps —and the world at large—that German industry had a most important part to play in the whole European economy. It was not the British view that it should be crippled, as long as it did not endanger peace.

Which way do the Germans themselves wish to go? It is not easy to find out the German mind because the country is divided into four parts and has had no chance to state its opinion as one undivided nation. But a few days ago Berlin voted for a new Town Council. This was an occasion when Germans living in four miniature occupation zones could express themselves freely, all at the same time and all about the same thing. The result of the polls was very significant. In perfectly free elections, the first free elections, in fact, since 1933, almost half of the voters were in favour of the Social Democratic Party, which resembles, in most things, the British Labour Party. About a fifth of the votes was cast for the Communist-sponsored Social Unity Party, and about the same number for the right-wing Christian Democratic Party.

As far as it is possible to judge, the Berlin elections show that the Germans would most probably like to take the middle road towards a peaceful and democratic Germany of the future. If educated properly they may cast aside the thought of war. But in this task they must be helped, as Mr Bevin said, by all four occupying Powers.

Should these elections indicate a real change of heart, as well they may, there is a brighter prospect of a more stable peace than many have hitherto thought possible.

YOUR OWN C N

PLEASE tell your friends that it is now possible to obtain the C N regularly. But to make sure of a copy each week it is necessary to give an order to a newsagent.

The C N next week will again consist of 12 pages. Have you placed your own order ?

A Seesaw in Finmark

"I AM the first guy to build a seesaw, a swing, and a sandpit this side of the line of the midnight sun," writes a British relief worker in Finmark, Northern Norway, "and I am overjoyed at the children's appreciation." He had done this while helping a Swedish social worker to provide a playground for returning evacuees.

Eight members of the international relief team—Danes, Norwegians, Swedes, and English —have been to a remote fiord to build a house, living in tents themselves. Their staple food is fish, "with occasional pancakes made of seagulls' eggs." They have been impressed by the eagerness with which the inhabitants of this cold, barren land, whose homes were destroyed by the Germans, are taking up their lives again.

OLD DRURY

DRURY LANE THEATRE, London, H Q of Ensa during the war, will soon be ringing again with the voices of actors and the sound of music; authority has been given for the necessary repairs to be put in hand.

Old Drury was first opened in 1663, when Charles II reigned over England. It was burnt down in 1672, and Wren designed a new playhouse, which was rebuilt in 1794. In 1809 the theatre was again destroyed by fire. Wyatt was the architect of the present theatre, which was opened in 1812.

On the stage of this famous old playhouse appeared many a famous actor—David Garrick, Edmund Kean, William Charles Macready. At one time Richard Brinsley Sheridan was manager and part owner of Drury Lane Theatre, as also was Garrick.

Magistrates Go to School

THE Magistrates' Association has begun a "school" for its members. This will take the form of a postal course on such subjects as law of evidence and criminal law. At the end of the course an examination will be held.

British magistrates have the reputation of being the best in the world, but people still like to poke innocent fun at the dignity of the Bench. Lord Chancellor Jowitt recently quoted this verse which he had received by post:

Sing a song of licences
For sale of gin and French,
Five-and-twenty justices
Packed upon the bench.
When the court is open
They enter in a string.
Golly, what a lovely lot
To represent the King!

ADVICE FOR OUR FARMERS

AS everyone knows, farming and horticulture are highly technical pursuits, in which science plays a major part. Farmers and horticulturists in need of special advice have had to rely mainly upon universities and agricultural colleges. In future this help is to be given free by the National Agricultural Advisory Service.

This new national service will work with the county agricultural committees, and will run a number of experimental farms. The lessons which these experiments will provide ought to be of great benefit to farmers, most of whom cannot afford to run the risk of unsuccessful experiments.

In time this service should more than pay for its cost, with better farm production.

Austria's National Anthem

AUSTRIA, world-famous for music and song, has decided upon a new national anthem, which will replace Haydn's Kaiserlied.

The Austrian Government have selected a hymn by Mozart known as Bundeslied. But as the words of that hymn are unsuited to Austria's new age, a competition is to be held for fresh words.

Austria's people long to live in peace. A change in their national anthem may not mean much in itself, but it is evidence of Austria's desire to face a new world in a new way.

New Hope For Cyprus

THE British colony of Cyprus, in the Mediterranean, is to have a new constitution.

A Consultative Assembly representing all the people of the island is to be called together by the new Governor, Sir Charles Woolley, to consider and, if possible, frame proposals for constitutional reform. It is hoped that this will lead to the restoration of a Legislative Council, which was abolished in 1931 because of disturbances.

A plan for development over the next ten years, costing about £6,000,000, is to be put in hand. It provides for improvements in farming, irrigation, forestry, health, education, port expansion, and tourist facilities.

WORLD NEWS REEL

ONE EACH. A ship was recently loaded at New Westminster, British Columbia, with 46,000,000 shell eggs for Britain.

Work has started on Palestine's first settlement for Orthodox Jews, all born in Palestine. It is on a hilltop eight miles south of Bethlehem.

At the opening of The Story of Wool exhibition at Australia House, London, the High Commissioner of Australia, Mr John Beasley, said that 26 per cent of the world's wool comes from Australia. This means a cheque for the Dominion of £80,000,000.

A recent note to the British Government from Denmark stated that she desires cultural and political freedom for the Danes of South Schleswig, at present part of Germany.

NO CROSSROADS. A new 160-mile-long motor road between Paris and Lille, on which work has begun, will have no crossings, so 180 bridges and culverts will have to be built.

Great Britain recently received from the Johannesburg electricity department orders for two 30,000 kilowatt generating sets costing £2,250,000.

The Hashidate Maru, an 11,320-ton Japanese whaling ship, is expected to catch 1500 whales on its first cruise.

Ice-breakers may be used to keep open a channel to the sea from Montreal and other ports on the St Lawrence river for a week after December 1, the usual closing date, so that ships may continue taking food to Britain and Europe.

WORLD RADIO. Representatives of Great Britain, Russia, the U S, France, and China, who recently discussed world radio communications in Moscow, recommended that a world conference on the subject should be called for next May, and another conference on telephones and telegraphs in 1948.

The Indian Civil Service is in future to be all-Indian.

The New Zealand Rugby League Council have accepted an invitation to send a team to this country next year.

Some newly-found relics of Mozart, including a lock of his hair, have been sent to Prague University Library.

R A F planes, equipped with radar, are mapping the hinterland of West Africa.

HOME NEWS REEL

DON'T TRY IT. Alexander Marshall, a crane driver, aged 26, at Portland railway station, pulled three goods wagons weighing more than 19 tons over a distance of 50 feet with his teeth. He hooked a web belt to the first wagon and held the belt in his teeth.

For saving seven bulls in a fire, Vera Freeston, a Land Army girl working in Suffolk, has been awarded the R S P C A's Gallantry Medal.

At Holy Trinity Church, Upper Tooting, recently, a religious brains trust replaced the sermon at evening service.

Sir Malcolm Campbell has decided to abandon for this year his attempt to beat his own water speed record of 141.7 m p h which he made in 1939. His attempt this year was to have been made on Lake Coniston in his Blue Bird fitted with a jet engine.

COAL DREDGING. It is expected that dredging in Portsmouth Harbour will yield about 10,000 tons of coal lost during a long period of loading coal on to ships from a hulk moored in the harbour.

The first prefabricated post office in Greater London, at East Croydon, was built in 15 days.

Boot repairing and carpentry workshops, and cycle stores, are being established in surface air-raid shelters on housing estates at Bermondsey.

Admiral Lord Mountbatten has revealed that during the war one troop of Commandos, called X Troop, was composed of anti-Nazi Germans.

In Great Britain and Northern Ireland there were 1,874,878 tons of merchant shipping under construction at the end of September, the greatest amount since 1922.

A boy recently caught a 15-pound carp in a pond near Farnham, in Surrey.

NO CATS? During the war the British Army used 120,000 mules, 40,000 horses, 16,000 camels, 6000 bullocks, 5000 dogs, and 15,700 pigeons.

Stirlingshire Education Committee are to purchase the buildings of Burnbank Foundry, Falkirk, for £7000 and equip them for the training of pupils in ironfoundry work, for which the district is renowned.

The extension to the Bodleian Library at Oxford, which was recently opened by the King, is intended chiefly for modern studies and will eventually contain, among its many possessions, 10,000 reference books on social studies, contemporary history, and philosophy.

Headley Heath, near Box Hill in Surrey, has been presented to the National Trust.

A red-breasted snipe, rare American bird, has been sighted on Romney Marshes in Kent.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

THE CHIEF SCOUT. After spending two months in Canada, the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan, is returning to this country by air and will arrive at Prestwick Airport on November 11. He has travelled all over the Dominion, and also paid brief visits to Newfoundland and the U S.

Sir Percy Everett, Deputy Chief Scout, has written a letter of Commendation to Patrol Leader Thomas Young, 15, of the 1st Eglingham (Northumberland) Troop, for rescuing a ten-year-old boy from drowning.

Camping is becoming increasingly popular among Girl Guides. Figures for this year show that 7050 London Rangers and Guiders went to camp—1000 more than last year.

FOUNDER'S DAY. Sunday, October 27, was celebrated by the Boys Brigade in Britain and throughout the Empire as Founder's Day, to honour the memory of Sir William Alexander Smith, who was born on that day in 1854.

When the King goes to South Africa in the New Year, one of his many visits will be to a Scout training camp near East London.

Hornsey policemen have offered to help to redecorate local bomb-damaged Scout headquarters in their spare time.

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American University's 200th Birthday

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY in New Jersey, U S A, recently celebrated the 200th anniversary of its founding. Honorary degrees were conferred on Mr Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations, and on two famous British scientists, Sir Henry Dale and Sir Harold Hartley, and also on Sir John Boyd Orr, Director General of the U N Food and Agriculture Organisation.

The foundation of Princeton in the old Colonial days of North America was helped by subscribers in Britain, for when the college was moved to Newark in 1748 money to help in its development was liberally subscribed by, among many others, the Bishop of Durham; and the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland ordered a national collection for the new American university. The college was transferred to its present home at Princeton in 1756.

In the War of Independence its buildings were considerably damaged and for a time its students had to leave, for both British and American armies fought in its neighbourhood. Study at the university, however, was only interrupted for a few months by these events, such was the enthusiasm for learning of 18th-century American students and teachers.

The great President Woodrow Wilson, America's leader in the First World War, who conceived the idea of the League of Nations, was a student at Princeton and its President from 1902 until 1910. He contributed a collection towards Princeton's library, which now contains about one million volumes.

Cotton's Five-Day Week

LANCASHIRE'S 230,000 cotton operatives are to start a five-day week on December 2. This new plan to work a 45-hour week has been agreed upon by the three central organisations in Manchester, which represent masters and workers, and is the first step towards "a 40-hour week which will be achieved in stages."

As most cotton factories work eight and three-quarter hours daily from Monday to Friday, the slight increase to nine hours is hardly noticeable. A compensating rise of six and two-thirds per cent will maintain the present 48-hour week wage.

FUEL FLASH

THE officials and workmen of Dawdon Collieries, Seaham Harbour, Durham, have been congratulated by the Pit Production Committee on their output from January 1 to October 12. Their production was 504,322 tons, or 33,842 tons more than in the corresponding period last year.

During 41 weeks the target has been exceeded on 33 occasions.

Building a Racer

MR GEORGE SIMS, who builds boats for the Oxford and Cambridge race, considered it an honour when he was asked to



make a racing eight for Scotch College, Perth, Australia.

Our picture shows the boat for Australia being built at Hammersmith. Constructed of Honduras Cedar, with English Oak ribs, it is 61 feet long and weighs only 270 lbs.

QUICK WORK

IT is believed that a world record in house-building was recently achieved by 18 men working on an estate owned by the Sheffield Corporation. They put up a house valued at £1396 in 38 minutes. It was one of a series of aluminium prefabricated houses planned under the city's building scheme.

The First Rungs

TWO very young actors are climbing the first steps in their careers by acting in The Crowthers of Bankdam, an English film, now being produced.

Literally the baby of the film is Jeremy Hanley, only nine months old, who, in the film, has a part as the son of his father in real life, Jimmy Hanley. "Baby Jeremy is acting his role as to the manner born," a C N correspondent was told. "But this, perhaps, is not surprising since both his father and mother are film actors."

Jeremy's "colleague" of great youth in the film is two-year-old Ian Hay, who is greatly enjoying his film-making experiences. It is interesting to note that little Ian is beginning his career in the same way as his mother, Pearl Hay, began hers. She also first acted in a film at the age of two, and later worked in Hollywood.

The film, The Crowthers of Bankdam, features a Yorkshire family in the woollen trade; it is based on Thomas Armstrong's novel of the same title.

SEND THESE CARDS

THE medical work of the Grenfell Mission among the lonely fishermen and trappers of Labrador has always made a strong appeal to readers of the C N.

This year again the Grenfell Association has some beautifully designed Christmas cards in colour, the sale of which will help the valiant doctors and nurses who work along Labrador's 1000 miles of desolate coastline. These cards are 10d each with envelope, postage extra, and there is also a pocket calendar, price sevenpence, with a picture of Sir Wilfred Grenfell with a little patient. The Association has also cards in black and white, fivepence each with envelope, and packets of British Commonwealth stamps for sale.

The cards and the calendar, and particulars about the stamps, can be obtained from The Secretary, Grenfell Association, 66 Victoria Street. S W 1.



The Dolls Come to London

An exhibition to delight the hearts of girls (not to mention their mothers) was the collection of dolls at a bazaar in Westminster. They came from almost every country in the world, and many were in elaborate and gaily-embroidered costumes. This little visitor is standing before a group representing a Czechoslovakian wedding.

A MELTING STORY

NOT long ago an electric train at Willesden became involved in a strange mishap; one of its "shoes"—the flat pieces of metal that lead electric current from live rail to engine—melted on to the rail and held the train fast.

When the train was being shunted from one line to another, there was so much arc-ing of electricity from rail to shoe that the shoe melted with the heat and welded itself to the line.

A Happy Birthday

A WELL-KNOWN social centre in the much-bombed City of London has reached its half-century; the Cripplegate Institute, opened on November 4, 1896, has celebrated its jubilee.

Managed by the Cripplegate Foundation and deriving its funds from gifts by "Pious Donors" made at least as early as 1500, the Institute has a fine theatre and is one of the most popular homes of amateur theatre clubs. But it is much more, for it has a free library, gymnasium, and lecture and concert halls.

Undoubtedly, Cripplegate Institute plays an important part in the life of the City, and everyone who knows it wishes it many happy returns.

GOOD SERVICE

FOR seven years two four-engined Empire flying-boats have been carrying passengers between Sydney and Auckland—an airline distance of 1342 miles.

Known by their Maori names of Aotearoa and Awarua, these veteran flying boats have altogether crossed the Tasman Sea 1469 times in seven years. This is a total distance of nearly two million miles. The two aircraft have a combined total of 14,600 hours in the air.

What a splendid testimonial to British aircraft engineering!

The Bombed City Churches

IT has been recommended by the Bishop of London's Commission that eleven of the blitzed churches in the City should be rebuilt or restored, one should be used as a chapter house or choir school for St Paul's Cathedral, five should have their sites sold, and three should be the sites for church institutes mainly serving youth.

Three of the churches recommended for restoration are St Bride's, Fleet Street, with its magnificent Wren steeple, St Giles, Cripplegate, where John Milton lies buried, and the Toc H church of All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower.

The proposal that three City church sites—St Stephen's, Coleman Street, Christ Church, Greyfriars, and St Dunstan-in-the-East—should serve the cause of youth is a fine conception.

SNAPPY

A CORRESPONDENT of The Times has reported that some newspaper editors meeting at Rochester, New York, were photographed at a speed of one ten-thousandth of a second, and before they were all seated fifteen seconds later the photograph taken was projected on to a screen for the editors to see!

The apparatus used, which has been devised by the Eastman Kodak Company, has a camera, developing cabinet, and projector, all combined.

It looks as though Robert Burns's plea

O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as others see us.

is in sight of being granted, and within fifteen seconds.

BERWICK BEAR

VISITORS to Winfield Camp, Duns, Berwickshire, where the 22 (Polish) Artillery Supply Corps are stationed, may suddenly find themselves face to face with a big brown bear known in the camp as Private Woztok.

When a baby bear, he was picked up by Polish soldiers serving in Persia. They adopted him as their mascot, and later he was placed "on the strength" of the corps. He gets an ordinary soldier's rations, eats and drinks everything given to him, and is quite tame.

Corrobboree

THE people of Sydney not long ago subscribed £500 in three days so that the Australian composer, John Antill, could fly to London to hear his ballet suite, Corrobboree, played at the Royal Albert Hall, its first performance in Britain.

Corrobboree is the Australian Aborigine word for their ritual dance, and John Antill's ballet music is founded on the strange rhythm of the dance and the peculiar sounds made by a native "dance-band," with their striking of shields and boomerangs and their strange wind instruments.

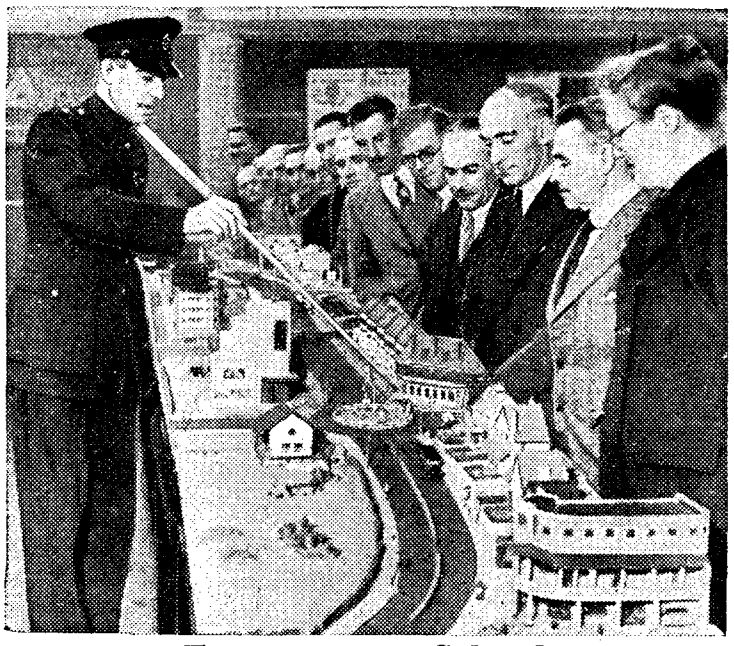
It made a great impression on the Albert Hall audience, who greeted the ballet suite and its composer with enthusiasm.

UNDAUNTED

SEVERAL Sea Rangers of Beccles in Suffolk have volunteered to mind homes in the district for a shilling an evening, so that parents may enjoy an evening out together.

By this means the Rangers hope to obtain sufficient money to buy a sailing dinghy for carrying out part of their training on the River Waveney, which runs through the town. The vessel will be called Undaunted.

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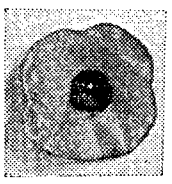
Examiners at School

Driving tests have just been re-introduced, and examiners are seen here watching a demonstration of traffic control on a model highway at a Police School during a refresher course.

CHINESE CHILDREN'S POPPIES

THIS is the 25th year—the Silver Jubilee—of British ex-Servicemen making Poppies for sale on Remembrance Day; for those sold on the first Poppy Day in 1921 were made by women and children in France. In 1922 the first all-British Poppy was made by hand by five men working in an old collar factory in the Old Kent Road, London. This year, 324 disabled ex-Servicemen of the two World Wars have made the 45 million Poppies which are to be sold on November 9.

Of all the millions of Poppies that have been sold during these years, few can have been so cherished as souvenirs as some 600 patchwork poppies made by children in a prison camp in China in 1943.



These home-made Poppies were made for the celebration of Remembrance Day, 1943, by Chinese school-children who were among the prisoners of 21 nations in the huge concentration camp set up by the Japanese at Weihsien.

The children had come from the North China Mission Schools which had been overrun by the Japanese. Few of them knew where their parents were, for these, already separated from their children who were boarders at the schools, had fled before the Japanese advance.

As Remembrance Day drew near these young prisoners made Poppies from odd scraps of rags they found about the camp. Each Poppy had its black centre neatly sewn into the red petals, and as the grown-up prisoners arrived at the camp church for the Remembrance Day service, the children presented a Poppy to each.

These crude Poppies will always recall to their proud possessors the memory of the courage, faith, and love of their young fellow-sufferers.

The 45 million Poppies made this year by disabled men at the British Legion's Poppy Factory at Richmond will go to 55 countries overseas where there are British people. They will reach their destinations by plane, ship, camel, mule wagon, and even by native runners in some remote parts of Africa.

Into their making have gone 100 miles of cloth, 1700 miles of wire for stems, 45 tons of cardboard, as well as other items.

Every Poppy bought means help to an ex-Service man or woman in need. Give generously for *your* Poppy.

Passing of a Great Nature-Lover

ERNEST THOMPSON SETON, the famous author and student of wild life in Canada, has passed on at the age of 86 at his home at Santa Fé, in New Mexico.

The books he wrote (under the name of Seton-Thompson) about his wild animal friends were immensely popular, for he wrote of them as though they had human characters and emotions, and he illustrated his books with his own delightful drawings.

He was born in England, but went to Canada at the age of five, and was educated there, though he returned to England later to study art. He was the founder of the Woodcraft League, which may be said to have been the forerunner of the Boy Scout movement. The League's summer camps were run on the same lines as the tribal system of the Red Indians—with whom he was also closely acquainted. In 1902 he started the Woodcraft League, which now has 80,000 members in the United States.

It is interesting to recall that once when he visited England a CN correspondent watched him make fire by rubbing sticks together in the Red Indian fashion. A roomful of boys and girls, and some older folk, looked on in astonishment as he caused a spark to drop on a dried chip. To this he applied what he called a mouse's nest of wood shaving, producing a flame from which he lit candles.

Seton-Thompson's kindly spirit and his deep understanding of animals live on in his books.

Walt Disney and the Little Folk

THAT modern Hans Andersen of the film world, Walt Disney, is sailing for Ireland on November 14. Why? it may be asked. And the answer is that the Emerald Isle is the traditional home of leprechauns, and Walt Disney wishes to study the background of these little fairy shoemakers before making a picture to be called Little People.

Up the airy mountain,
Down the rushy glen,
We daren't go a-hunting
For fear of little men.
Wee folk, good folk,
Trooping all together,
Green jacket, red cap,
And white owl's feather!

Thus sang the Irish poet, William Allingham, about the little fairy folk of his native land; and there are still many people (fortunate people, perhaps) who believe in them.

Legend has it that we must beware of the tiny, red-capped cobblers, each one merrily plying his elfin hammer in the moonlight as he guards his crock of gold. If we offend them we run the risk of being spellbound and led astray into the peat bogs of Erin. If we are polite, however, we may be presented with a crock of gold. Mr Disney, who appears, like Peter Pan, to have the secret of eternal youth, will doubtless know the way to deal with leprechauns and win a crock of gold.



A Leprechaun
by a CN artist

The creator of Happy, Sneezy, and Grumpy should find the leprechauns of Ireland ideal characters for a film. And we all look forward to seeing the Little People in our cinemas—on the screen.

LEARNING AS THEY EARN

FIJIAN schoolboys now have an opportunity of earning while they learn. A school has been established on a plantation at Savusavu East.

Here, the boys are given a course in gardening, general farming, carpentry, and boat-building. Each boy receives 5s a week; this sum is banked for him and can only be withdrawn at the end of the course, which covers two or three years.

But schooling is not neglected. Two hours a day are devoted to arithmetic and book-keeping, English, and Fijian customs.

The School Magazine

NEXT month a Society of School Magazine Editors is to be formed, to secure co-operation between all boys and girls who edit school magazines, and to seek help and advice from educationalists and journalists.

This splendid idea has originated from the editors of the Cholmeleian, the magazine of Highgate School. In a letter to The Times announcing their proposal they say that they have noticed a lack of originality in present-day school magazines.

The CN wishes this new society well, and looks forward to hearing more about it.

The Editor's Table

IN FRIENDSHIP'S NAME

PARLIAMENT has approved and the nation has acclaimed the Bill which will provide for a statue of President Roosevelt in London. This great man who by name and by voice came close to the heart of the British people in their hour of destiny is to have a permanent memorial among his friends.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT has a secure place already in British hearts, won by his own sincerity of character and his plain devotion to the cause of freedom, and that we shall not forget, nor allow the memory of him to fade. But to see him standing at London's heart will be a constant sign to Britain that a peerless friend, though physically removed from our sight, still speaks to us. In the dark days of war his voice came encouragingly across the stormy Atlantic, and we knew that his were no idle words of a statesman secure and safe from the conflict, but the utterance of a firm friend.

THE foresight and determination which President Roosevelt displayed then mark him out as among the greatest in our human story. He changed history by his action and turned the tide of human affairs by his vision and tenacity. If he had not believed in freedom the democracies of the world might have gone down. His friendship with Mr Churchill gave him insight into the British character at the testing hour, and he translated this insight into persuasion and action among his own people. He stands among the immortals.

And so Britain is to pay tribute to the greatness of Roosevelt by setting up his statue in the heart of the capital. But in friendship's name we must do more. We must see to it that the story of this firm friend of Britain is handed on to the coming generations. Let us see that our history books speak about him, and that every school remembers him on American Independence Day in July or on Thanksgiving Day in November.

THE children of the years to come deserve the inspiration of knowing about the man who rode the storms of the world at their worst. His own triumph over physical disaster, his unmatched position among America's leaders, his election three times as President, and his close friendship with our great war leader—here is a saga of nobility of purpose which no child of the future must miss. Let the story of Franklin D. Roosevelt be told imperishably so that friendship may be exalted and the name of one who practised it so supremely well be kept evergreen among us.

Coal and Tulips

THE miner's life is set in such dismal surroundings that any effort at brightening his lot is welcome. So the gift of tulip bulbs from the brave people of Holland to our miners is indeed welcome.

The Dutch people wished to show their appreciation for the work of the British Secret Service in saving a great part of the bulb seed crop from destruction during the German occupation of Holland. And so half a million tulip bulbs, worth more than £10,000, are being sent to our miners, to whom a gift of colour means so much.

It is, indeed, a lovely way of saying Thank You!

Old Names are Best

NOWADAYS, when some people want the services of a rat-catcher they have to get in touch with a rodent-operative; and before long it would seem that if they want their chimneys swept they will have to ring up a fluonomist.

Mr R. Hyde, director of the Industrial Welfare Society, says that he knows at least one man dealing with sooty flues who styles himself a fluonomist, and, moreover, charges sixpence more than plain chimney-sweeps; and he deplores this tendency to be "bewitched by words," as he calls it, instancing also the dentist who calls himself a dental practitioner and the undertaker who follows American practice and becomes a mortician.

We deplore it, too, dreading the day when we shall be driven to our work by a locomologist instead of an engine-driver. Change is not always improvement and in this matter we find ourselves in favour of the old straightforward names.

AUTUMN PLENTY

FRUITS are born of flowers;
Peach, and roughest nut, were
Blossoms in the Spring.

Leigh Hunt

Under the E

PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW
If soft music is hard to play



THE patient work of naturalists leaves its mark on their faces. They all have good looks.

⊡

WHAT is the latest thing in footwear? *Bed-socks.*

⊡

SMALL people, says a psychologist, are quick to make up a quarrel. And easily put out.

⊡

IT is good to let children smash china, says a doctor. But not good for the china.

⊡

A CRITIC declares that radio audiences laugh too much. They should only say "Hear! Hear!"

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THINGS SAID

No matter how greatly air transport might develop it is inconceivable that 30 million tons of goods a year or more could be brought into this country or exported by air in the foreseeable future.

Admiral Sir John Cunningham

There is a secret something in the English which has produced this world-wide brotherhood that is so important to the world. There is something in this Commonwealth which other people have not got.

Lord Altrincham

I think our steadiness and patience are bringing their own reward. *Ernest Bevin*

I am sure that the important tasks facing the United Nations can be settled, and any difficulties overcome in the interests of strengthening peace, and the well-being of peoples.

Mr Molotov

She performed beautifully, just like a sewing machine.

The Skipper of the Queen Elizabeth

A Use for Bomb Sites

An excellent suggestion for the use of a gap torn in South London by Nazi bombs has been made by the Town Planning Committee to the L C C. It is a traffic roundabout in the bomb-stricken area of the Elephant and Castle, which before the war was one of London's black spots of traffic congestion.

This is an encouraging sign, for the problem of traffic congestion and its accompanying perils must be solved, and the full use of suitable blitzed sites in our larger cities will greatly help towards solving it. Similar proposals have been made elsewhere, and it is for the ordinary citizen to insist that they are carried out.

Golden Gift

South Africa's golden gift of a million pounds to the people of Britain is a testimony to the ties which so firmly link the great British Dominions with the Motherland.

In four months' time the King and Queen with their Princesses will set out to visit the land from which this golden gift has come, to return thanks for it, and to strengthen our comradeship in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

That comradeship is surely one from which all the nations may draw wise lessons in harmonious living.

A DIAMOND JUBILEE

On November 7 the British Weekly celebrates its Diamond Jubilee. When that fine Scottish journalist and scholar William Robertson Nicoll founded this paper in 1886, he set a high literary standard and tone which has been maintained ever since.

The British Weekly has every reason to be proud of its record, and we offer our congratulations to a fine religious journal which we hope will long continue to spread its good influence far and wide.

In Spite of All

Lord, with what care hast Thou begirt us round!
Parents first season us; then schoolmasters
Deliver us to laws; they send us, bound
To rules of reason, holy messengers,
Pulpits and Sundays, sorrow dogging sin,
Afflictions sorted, anguish of all sizes,
Fine nets and stratagems to catch us in,
Bibles laid open, millions of surprises;
Blessings beforehand, ties of gratefulness,
The sound of glory ringing in our ears:
Without, our shame; within, our consciences;
Angels and grace, eternal hopes and fears!
Yet all these fences and their whole array
One cunning bosom-sin blows quite away. *George Herbert*

KIND LANDLORD

An item in a Lewiston, Idaho, newspaper was read with more than usual interest recently.

It was inserted by a landlord who evidently likes children, for it ran: "Modern house, four bedrooms. Will rent to family with minimum three children, 50 dollars a month. Four children, 45 dollars. Five children, 40 dollars."

The world has need of more of these sympathetic, broadminded citizens!

JUST AN IDEA

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

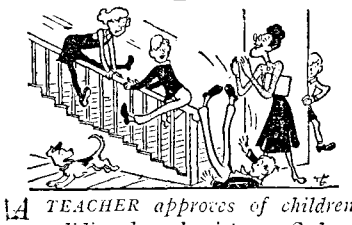
ditor's Table

Every Cabinet Minister has several Bills for which he wants time in the House. Ordinary people want money for theirs.

Iced cakes may be held up, say the bakers. Not out of reach, we hope.

Jewellers often photograph their expensive items of jewellery. If you ask to see them the answer is in the negative.

A man says he believes in taking things easily. But does he bring them back?



A teacher approves of children sliding down banisters. So long as they are brought up properly.

Fighting the Good Fight in Japan

A commission appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Presiding Bishop of the American Church, and the Primate of All Canada has reported favourably on the welcome it received from the Japanese people when its members visited Japan last summer.

The report says that a liberty and candour in discussion were apparent which did not exist in the past, and that General MacArthur spoke of the great opportunity which lies before Christians in this defeated land.

The Japanese Church needs 4,290,000 yen (£71,500) to develop its good work, and it has been suggested that this responsibility should be shared proportionately by the Churches of America, Canada, and Britain.

A Schoolgirl Musician



Betty Woodcock, a Yorkshire girl who played her cornet at the Albert Hall Brass Band Festival.

AUTUMN GLORY

Every garden-lover has a soft spot in his heart for the last flowers of the year—chrysanthemums. These ragged, variegated beauties show their bright faces through the grey of autumn and bring cheer at a time when it is most needed. As an American poet has written:

Welcome now thou art,
In thy pure loveliness — thy robes of white,
Speaking a moral to the human heart.

The chrysanthemum has been known for at least 2000 years. Its original home was probably China, where the Japanese found it, adopting it as their national flower. As in the 15th century our own national flower gave its name to the Wars of the Roses, so in the 14th century 50 years of civil war in Japan were known as the War of the Chrysanthemums.

In 1689 the plant was brought to England in a ship belonging to the East India Company, and it was not long before gardeners realised its possibilities. In the course of a century, by selection and crossing, wonders were worked.

The breeding of chrysanthemums — mostly, of course, in greenhouses—is still a highly skilled science, calling for infinite patience, and involving many disappointments; but when a brand-new variety is produced ample reward follows.

The Undying Splendour of an Oxford College

Christ Church, Oxford, is this week celebrating the 400th anniversary of its foundation by Henry VIII, who united the college with his new See of Oxford and gave it this name.

All the world knows, however, that this magnificent college, supreme in our ancient city of learning, was actually founded by the King's great minister, Thomas Wolsey, and that upon the Cardinal's fall it was taken over and completed by Henry. Both founders are being honoured in remembrance this week by the performance of Shakespeare's Henry the Eighth.

Thomas Wolsey, born at Ipswich, was admitted to Magdalen College, Oxford, as a young boy, and, gaining his B A at 17—some say 15—was regarded as a marvel, and called the Bachelor Boy. Thus began that lifelong ardour for education that he later sought to express by planning, though never completing, a series of colleges or grammar schools throughout the country.

Wolsey's Master Work

Having already established lectureships at Oxford, Wolsey planned his Cardinal's College about the Priory Church of St Frideswide in Oxford, on lines of such magnificence and splendour that it soon promised to be the greatest and finest in Europe. The foundation stone was laid in 1525, and in his last four years of power he spent his money like a millionaire benefactor of today. In addition, he obtained the Pope's permission to suppress many small monasteries and apply their revenues to his new building.

The Cardinal sent all over the country and to Normandy for materials, pulling down old church fabrics that stood in his way, and even felling part of the ancient city wall of Oxford to make room for his enormous kitchen. Here Wolsey's table can still be seen, together with the great chopping block—a slice from a 400-year-old tree.

The best masons, carpenters and men skilled in carving, he summoned from all parts of the compass; everything was superb in design and execution. His college hall was unmatched in England; the great quadrangle, the famous Tom Quad, with its ancient bell in the tower that nightly at 9.5 strikes 101, to call the undergraduates and tell the number of students originally at the college.

Wolsey was never to see the college of his dreams completed, and his cloisters remain unfinished to this day. Nevertheless, Christ Church stands, after more than 400 years, a magnificent witness to the magnificent Cardinal. It is the glorious conception extolled in Shakespeare, when Catherine of Aragon, hearing of Wolsey's death, pays homage to a work "though unfinished, yet so famous, so excellent in art, and—still rising that Christendom shall ever speak his virtue."

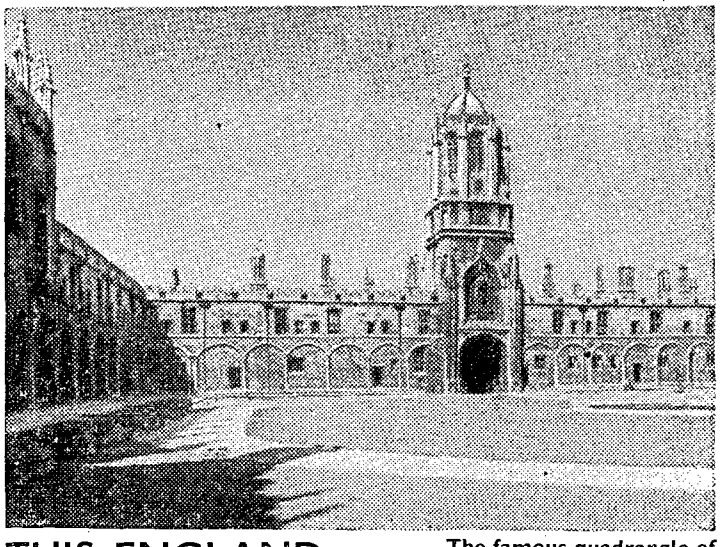
In the famous city of Oxford Christ Church is supreme. Its men never speak of their old college, but always of The House; and its chapel is Oxford's cathedral. All through the years since Cardinal Wolsey and his royal master died, Christ Church has been adding to its splendour and its fame.

Its splendour is manifest in almost every part of its widespread buildings. Its fame is enshrined in Wolsey's magnificent Hall with its carved hammerbeam roof, enriched with heraldic badges. For in the stained-glass windows of Hall (never *the* Hall at Christ Church) are shining figures of great men in its story—Wolsey himself, resplendent in crimson and white robes, Sir Thomas More, Dean Colet, John Locke among them.

A Noble Company

On the walls of Hall is an impressive display of Christ Church worthies, portraits of famous men by famous artists: Bishop Fell, painted by Lely; Richard Bushby, the great headmaster of Westminster who never spared the rod; John Wesley, by Romney; Mr Gladstone, by Millais, a reminder that not the least of the distinctions of Christ Church is that it has given Britain no fewer than eleven Prime Ministers.

All these, and many more, are here—a noble company testifying to the undying glory of Oxford's Christ Church.



THIS ENGLAND

The famous quadrangle of Christ Church, Oxford

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Remembering "Memory" Woodfall

IN these days we are all familiar with Parliamentary Debates; but few people know that the first man to give reports of them in his paper the following morning was William Woodfall, born 200 years ago, and that he wrote them down from memory.

Everything said in Parliament is printed in Hansard—the official Report of Parliamentary Debates. In addition, every newspaper is allowed, if it wishes, to print all that is said in both Houses of Parliament. But in the 18th century newspaper reporters were not allowed in either House. Therefore, the reports of the Debates which appeared in the papers were often inaccurate.



Very often the writer had not been inside either the House of Commons or the House of Lords, but wrote the speech from the notes of someone who had been present. Dr Samuel Johnson, for instance, reported the Parliamentary speeches in the Gentleman's Magazine for three years; but only once did he enter the House of Commons. In fact, it was sometimes dangerous to report the debates. In 1771, the printer of the London Evening Mail was arrested for publishing them.

It was Wiliam Woodfall, born just two centuries ago, who blazed the trail towards accurate word-for-word, or verbatim, reports. Furthermore, he did it all from memory!

He owned and edited a paper called the Diary, and in it he sometimes wrote as many as 16 columns of these verbatim reports of the Debates, "having," as it was said, "sat in a crowded gallery for as many hours without rest." In those days there was no Press Gallery, only a cramped Public Gallery. He also indulged in dramatic criticism in his journal, his outspokenness on one occasion making an enemy of David Garrick.

In 1784 he was invited to Dublin to report some important debates there. Crowds swarmed round him. They thought he possessed miraculous superstitious powers. But whatever may have been the secret of his great ability, the public was so appreciative of his work that other editors soon copied his example. Only, instead of remembering all the Debates themselves, they sent reporters in relays.

"Memory" Woodfall died in 1803, and, fittingly enough, was buried in Parliament's Church—St Margaret's, Westminster. It was in the year of his death that publication of Hansard began. "Memory" Woodfall, the pioneer, deserves our remembrance.

BEDTIME CORNER

LOLLIPOP WOOD

IF ever you wander through Lollipop Wood,
You will have the most wonderful treat.
The bushes are covered with toffees and sweets,
And all manner of nice things to eat.
There are biscuits and strawberries, and coconut chips,
There are cherries and grapes by the pound,
While bananas and dates simply drop from the trees,
There are bunches all over the ground.
There is jelly with cream, and there's ice-cream as well,
There are pink and white chocolate creams.
Do you know where the wood is? I'm sure you can guess.
It is found in the land of Sweet Dreams.

A Ploughman & His Ass

A MAN had been ploughing all day, with an ass to pull the plough. At last he decided to stop work, and he got on the back of the ass and told it to go home.

But the animal was so tired it could scarcely move, so the man got down, placed the plough on his own shoulder, and then mounted again.

The ass, however, went just as slowly, and the man could not understand this, for he forgot that *the animal* still bore the weight.

Think before you act.

Prayer

TEACH me, O Loving Jesus, to show kindness to all things and to do good whenever I can. Amen

A HAPPY BONFIRE NIGHT PARTY



SATURN GROWS IN GRANDEUR

Stars Like Bees

By the C N Astronomer

THE planet Saturn is now coming into the evening sky and may be seen low in the east after about ten o'clock, but as he rises about forty minutes earlier each week, Saturn will soon become higher and more prominent—the brightest object in that region of the heavens.

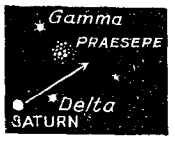
The star-map shows his present position in the constellation of Cancer, the Crab, where he appears very close to the fourth magnitude star, Delta-in-Cancer. On a dark, moonless night possessors of glasses would also find, to their right, the star-cluster known since ancient times as the Praesepe or Manger. Ordinary binoculars will show over 30 of the brightest of its stars, but a powerful telescope more than 500. Now, while Saturn is at present about nine times farther away than our Sun, Praesepe averages 38 million times farther. All its stars visible through the glasses are very much larger suns than ours.

All the Ancients Saw

The naked eye, however, sees Praesepe only as a patch of misty light. This was all the ancients saw, but its much later title of the Beehive suggests that to sharp eyes its starry character was perceptible. This was after Galileo's telescope had revealed its real nature.

Why these hundreds of suns should congregate together no one knows, except that the all-powerful force of gravitation impelled them to assume and retain that grouping, though, of course, their own initial energy keeps them in rapid motion within their group.

Saturn, notwithstanding its great distance in miles, is near to us as compared with the rest of the starry host. Even the star Delta, that *appears* so near to Saturn, is about 1,428,000 times farther away from us. Light, which takes 1¼ *hours* to reach us from Saturn at his present distance, takes 203 *years* to reach us from the star Delta. We may thus realise how vast is the space that surrounds our Solar System.



During the next six weeks Saturn will *appear* still nearer to Delta, as is indicated by the arrow on the star-map, and will by the end of December appear just above the star. Meanwhile, Saturn will have come 65 million miles nearer to us and will then be seen high in the east, and, later, in the south-east sky. On the night of Thursday, November 14, Saturn will appear a little way below and to the right of the gibbous Moon, whose light will considerably dim that of the planet.

Seen through a telescope, Saturn appears at his best this year. His belted sphere suspended in the midst of his wide-open Ring System and his satellites ever changing their relative positions round about him make one of the grandest and most impressive sights of the heavens. G. F. M.

All From A Modern Noah's Ark

BY THE C N ZOO CORRESPONDENT

LONDON'S Zoo has recently received 87 crates of wild animals—the biggest collection, in all its 118 years of history, that it has ever received at one time.

The animals, numbering over 300, and valued at about £12,000, are the result of eight months' collecting in East Africa by Mr C. S. Webb, the Society's travelling curator, and their arrival in a modern Noah's Ark brings the Zoo back practically to its pre-war strength.

I cannot tell you of all the creatures Mr Webb has brought home this time—the list would almost fill one of these columns. Let me therefore introduce you to a few of the more interesting animals—which you will shortly be able to see. The mammals include six young giraffes, three lions, a Cape buffalo, a spotted hyena, two chimpanzees, two cheetahs, and a lesser kudu (a tiny antelope with big ears and graceful form).

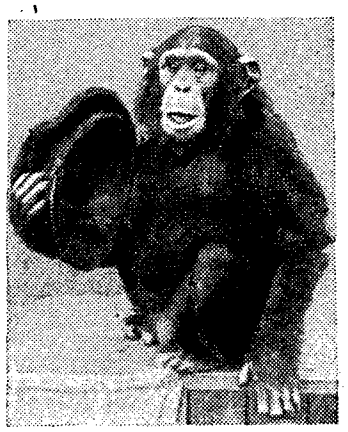
The birds number over 250, and vary in size from the ostrich to those tiny gems known as sun-birds, which are little larger than humming-birds. Included among them are a big ground hornbill, who takes huge ungainly hops all over the place, and a pair of secretary-birds, so-called because the tufts of feathers at the back of the head look like quill pens stuck behind the ear. Incidentally, the secretary-birds will now have to change their normal diet, snakes and lizards, and eat meat.

Lion Pets From Kenya

Two things impressed me—firstly, the tameness of so many of the animals; and secondly, their youth. The three lions, for example, were quite the tamest of their kind I have ever set eyes on. The reason, Mr Webb tells me, is that they are all "ex-pets." All had been living in the garden of a Kenya planter, almost as freely as domestic animals.

As for baby animals, I have never before seen so many arrive at one time, and I am quite sure that before long some of them will become Zoo "stars" of the first magnitude. Most charming of all, perhaps, is little Jimmy, the six-month-old rhinoceros, who still has to be fed every few hours on a bottle! And no less attractive, in their way, are a pair of baby cheetahs, also only about six months of age; and a family of five bat-eared foxes—endearing little creatures with huge ears and soft fur coats.

Of course, I don't want you to think that all the newcomers



John Chimpanzee makes his bow

are tame. They are not. There are several who are about as wild as could be—for example, Punch, the spotted, or "laughing," hyena. Punch may "laugh" sometimes—when he sees his dinner approaching, say. But when I first went to look at him—he crouched back in his travelling-crate, snarling and growling ominously and looking about as evil as it is possible for an animal to look.

Among the reptiles Mr Webb has brought are two big African pythons, which also are "nobody's pets" at present, though in time they may become tame enough to have their heads stroked, just as other tame Zoo pythons do.

Almost every section of the menagerie has been enriched. Even the Aquarium has received a ten-pound hawksbill turtle—the kind from whose shell expensive spectacle frames are made. This creature has been put into a warm-water tank in the sea-water hall, which is soon to be reopened to the public. C. H.

STARTING YOUNG IN THE RAF

THE RAF seeks to enlist and train our airmen of the future while they are young. The Government has recently published the latest conditions under which young men between the ages of 15½ and 17—and in exceptional cases 17½—can begin careers in the RAF as Aircraft Apprentices.

The young men who are selected serve for three years as apprentices and must then serve for twelve years in the RAF, after which they may re-engage for the period necessary to obtain a pension. The apprentices are paid from 10s 6d to 28s a week, and, of course, they receive free food, accommodation, clothing, and medical attention. Holidays are liberal—about six weeks leave a year.

During their apprenticeship they learn trades such as those of fitter, electrician, instrument-maker, radio mechanic, and at the end of their training there will be opportunities for them to become officers, or members of air crews as pilots, navigators, signallers, engineers, and gunners.

After a strict medical examination and a general intelligence test which all the candidates must pass, there is an educational examination; but those who have obtained an approved first school certificate with credit in mathematics and in a science subject need pass the general intelligence test only.

Further details about this excellent way of starting a career in the RAF may be obtained by writing to the Information Bureau, Air Ministry, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W C 2, for Pamphlet 15, 17th Edition.

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Baffled by a Beetle

THE President of the Board of Trade, Sir Stafford Cripps, told Parliament the other day that production of utility furniture is being held up by the ravages of an insect—the Lyctus Beetle.

The gates of cypress wood that the Turks destroyed in capturing Constantinople, 493 years ago, were perfect after 1100 years' service. Utility furniture, made in this country only two years ago, is already threatened with destruction. The cypress gates, exposed to air currents and sunlight, were preserved by these agencies from wood-boring beetles; the timber of the furniture, much of it containing soft sapwood, has lacked such protection, and grubs, hatched from the eggs of beetles, have eaten their way in all directions into it, making much of it useless. The damage thus inflicted is so serious that the Board of Trade is to forbid its use in such furniture, so that the pest may be stayed.

This may greatly reduce the immediate output of utility furniture, but the reason is not, as has been stated, that there has been a sudden epidemic of the beetles during the last few weeks. Furniture beetles are always with us; the great amount of sapwood used to meet the immense demand for new furniture has provided vast fresh areas of food supply for the enemy, with a slowly mounting plague as the outcome. The little foe specially named is the lyctus beetle, of whose 20 known species we have at least six in this country. Timber experts call it the powder-post beetle. But we have other timber-borers, among them the Xestobium rufovillosum, which we know as the death-watch beetle, and the Anobium punctatum, commonly termed the furniture beetle.

In each case the beetle, which is winged, finds an opening in furniture or woodwork and in it lays scores of eggs. These hatch into soft, fleshy maggots, with

Continued in column 3

GREAT C N WRITING TEST

Over 1000 Cash and Other Prizes For Boys and Girls—*and* Schools

ARE you entering the great C N Handwriting Test announced last week? If you missed it then, please read on!

Prizes totalling over £400 in value are offered in this competition, open only to C N readers under 17 and who are full-time pupils of schools and colleges in the British Isles (including Eire and Channel Islands).

Competitors are simply asked to copy a brief Test Passage on the Entry Form to be obtained by following the directions below, and the test is divided into three age groups:

GROUP A for pupils of 6 to under 8
GROUP B for pupils of 8 to under 11
GROUP C for pupils of 11 to under 17

CASH PRIZES in *each* group are First, Second, and Third School Prizes of £10, £5, and £3; First, Second, and Third Pupils' Prizes of £5, £3, and £2.

1000 CONSOLATION PRIZES—250 Fountain-Pens, value 12s 6d, and 750 Book Tokens, value 5s—will also be awarded.

Thus, by entering, not only may you win a cash grant for your school, but also a separate money prize for yourself. And, failing that, there are still 1000 other prizes!

Remember, your attempt *must* be written on the proper Entry Form, which gives full instructions and the Test Passage to be copied; script, joined script, or cursive styles may be used.

How to Get Your Entry Form. Forms are issued only to readers in exchange for Application Coupons as below. If you have not yet applied for a Form, fill in your name on this coupon—and if sending for the form yourself, add your home address also—then post (1d stamp if the envelope is unsealed!) to C N at the address given. A better idea, if others in your school are entering, is to hand the coupon to your teacher and show him or her this announcement with the request kindly to forward it with other coupons from the school. Your Form will be sent *post free* to your home, or to your teacher, if so requested.

The closing date for entries is December 14; but forms should be sent for at once. Only one form per reader is allowed.

Please tell your schoolfriends about this splendid Competition.

Fill in and Post This Coupon—or Ask Your Teacher to Send It For You

To the Editor, CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER,
Room 171, The Fleetway House, London, E C 4 (Comp)

Please send me (post free) a C N Handwriting Test entry form. I am a reader of Children's Newspaper.

Name.....

Home or School Address.....

.....

N.B. One Entry Form only can be supplied in exchange for each coupon. Where a number of coupons is forwarded by a school, it is only necessary for each pupil to fill in his or her name, and for the teacher to add the school address to the top coupon and the name to which the forms should be addressed.

All requests for forms must at latest reach C N by Tuesday, December 3.

2

THE JOHN BULL SPIRIT

A SCHOOLBOY of eleven, Anthony Paget, has been called to a life of adventure by the will of his godfather, Sir Stephen John Bull, who was himself a seeker of adventure. For in his will Sir Stephen left a sum of money to his godson to be used by him after he is 17 in "adventuring abroad."

Sir Stephen John Bull, peacetime solicitor and wartime R A F officer, died in the jungle in Java in 1942. He had been leading a party of R A F men who were escaping on foot from the Japanese. He was ill, but he went on marching and encouraging his men. When they stopped to rest he died, leaving his godson to carry on a tradition of dauntless adventure-seeking.

A Corner in Hampshire

THE National Trust has announced the gift of about 250 acres of land at Stockbridge, Hampshire.

Miss Rosalind Hill and Miss Beatrice Hill, following the wishes of their late father, Sir Norman Hill, and of their brother, who was killed in action in Sicily, have presented Stockbridge Down (an important Bronze Age site), the Common Marsh at Stockbridge, and Green Place, a modern house on the Winchester road.

The grazing on the Common Marsh is controlled by the Court Leet and Court Baron of the ancient Borough of Stockbridge, and the Trust has undertaken as Lord of the Manor to continue to hold the ancient courts for all time.

The great 14th-century seal of the manor is still preserved.

BAFFLING BEETLE

Continued from the previous column

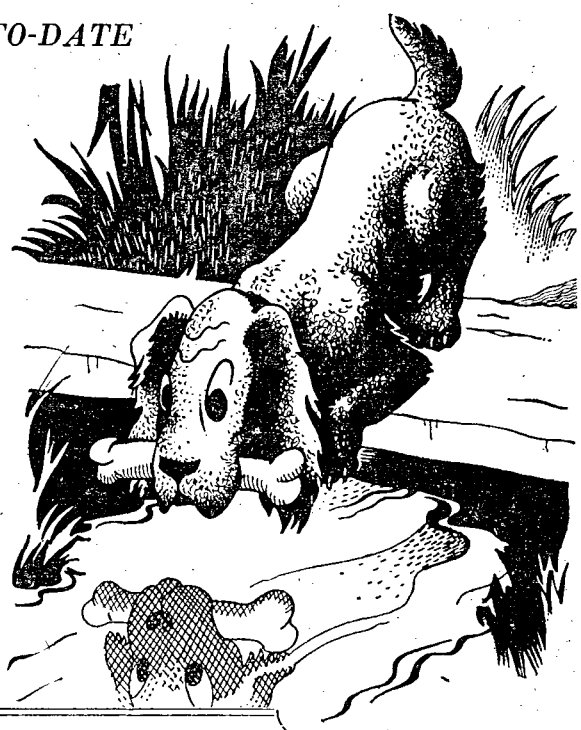
jaws as firm as little shears of steel. With these the maggot gnaws its way into the interior of the wood, the starchy part of which is its food. We see evidences of the mischief in the powder thrust out of the end of the burrow, but inside there is a perfect maze of hidden tunnels, which eventually cause the collapse of the article attacked.

Such an invasion is not the result of two or three weeks' operations. None of the grubs completes its larval stage in less than one or two years; some have been known to pass ten years, slowly destroying, before turning into beetles.

The lyctus beetle eats its way into furniture, into floors, into road-blocks, into roofs and beams, into the handles of tools, golf clubs, tennis rackets, hockey sticks, and cricket bats. It attacks oak, ash, elm, walnut, hickory, while others of our borers flourish in spruce, larch, and pine.

Our Forest Products Research Laboratory and our Timber Development Association are hard at work in search of prevention and cure. One preventive is treatment of the wood in kilns, where it is submitted to heat up to 130 degrees, and to humidity of varying degrees, for periods from two hours to as much as 50 hours. But nothing can relieve us of the need for vigilance lest the enemy should attack unobserved and spread its mischief undetected.

ÆSOP-TO-DATE



THE DOG AND THE BONE

A Dog was crossing a river, carrying a treasured Bone, which he saw reflected in the stream below. Thinking that it was a bigger bone, he resolved to make himself master of it; but in snapping at the supposed prize he dropped the bone he was carrying, and so lost all.

Once you let go your Savings they're gone. So don't let go of yours *till you are sure it's for something worth-while. There'll be better bargains in the shops later—so hold on to every penny saved—and go on buying*

NATIONAL SAVINGS STAMPS

EVERY £1 INVESTED WILL HELP TOWARDS THE NATIONAL TARGET OF £520 MILLIONS

Issued by the National Savings Committee

Bertie's always a winner on 'points'!



Nip Colds in the Bud

The best way to stop a cough or cold getting serious is to use an old and trusted recipe which is now more popular than ever. It is the "Parmint" recipe, known as probably the quickest of all ways to get rid of a cold or cough. Once you had to make it up yourself. Now chemists everywhere keep Parmint Syrup made up, bottled and ready for use. It is really astonishing how effective this syrup is. Take it in good time and a single dose will often stop the cold before it develops. It's particularly good for children. It soothes and eases little throats and chests and gets them well in no time. Besides, they actually like its flavour. Be wise. Get a bottle of Parmint Syrup from your chemist to-day and keep it handy. 1/5 the bottle, Family size 2/10, including Tax.

NOTE.—If through shortage of bottles your chemist is out of Parmint Syrup, get a 3/1½ bottle of Parmint Concentrated Essences and make up a big supply yourself.

HEALTH IS NATIONAL INSURANCE

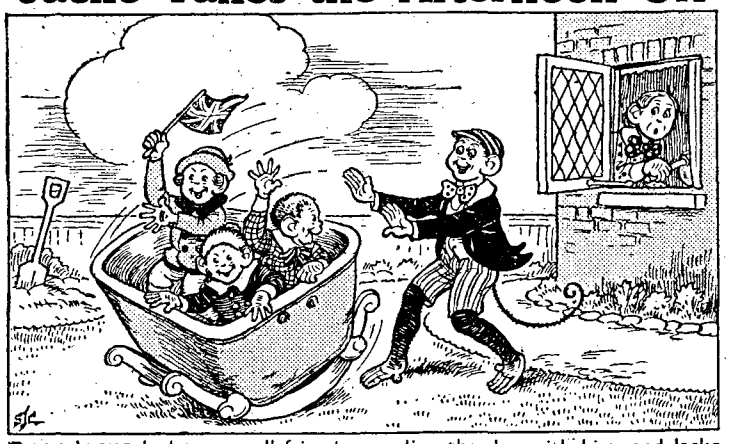
and with our Youth Organisations we are doing our utmost to build up our boys and girls for the place they must take later as responsible citizens. Will you please help us? We sorely need your aid. Address:

The Rev. RONALD F. W. BOLLOM, Supt., **THE EAST END MISSION** (Founded 1885), **Bromley Street, Commercial Road, Stepney, E.1.**

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THE BRAN TUB

Jacko Takes the Afternoon Off



BABY JACKO had two small friends spending the day with him, and Jacko was told to keep an eye on them while he worked in the garden. He decided that keeping two eyes on them would be more fun than gardening, and finding an old bath, he fixed rockers on it and gave the delighted youngsters a good imitation of life on the ocean wave. "That's a queer way of tidying up the garden," thought Mother Jacko.

THE REASON WHY

LITTLE ERIC loved water provided it was not being used to wash him, and every night at bedtime there was a hullabaloo.

One day when he was admiring his next-door neighbour's new cat, hoping to drive home a lesson, she replied:

"Yes, and she is as good as she is pretty—she never cries."

"Of course not," said Eric scornfully, "she is never bathed."

Find the Ships

IN this paragraph a fleet of five ships is hidden. What are they?

When you fly to London, on landing, craftily, speedily, and deftly you will be hurried from the airport, and so you should find time to call on my sister, Mrs Erica McBride, St Roy, Erring Road. You will know the house by the bright yellow net curtains, for the usual shade of ecru is Erica's pet aversion. You will not see my brother-in-law, a man of straw. Leroy is his unusual Christian name—chosen by his mother, who was French. He and my nephew in the Indian Army—a young submar, in every way, any pleasure I feel in a visit to their home.

Answer next week

JOURNEY'S END

A PROFESSOR who lived at Dunoon,
Made a rocket just like a balloon.
When firing it, though,
He forgot to let go,
So it took him right up to the Moon.

CENUINE Ex-RAILWAY AND SHIP

TARPAULINS

70 sq. feet, 15/-, incl. carr. *Guaranteed Good Condition*, worth 35/-, 2 for 29/6; 4 for 57/6. Extra large size, 280 sq. feet, £4; 140 sq. feet, £2; carr. free; 30 sq. feet, 6/-, carr. 2/-.
Ships' Tarpaulins. Approx. 380 sq. feet, £6 incl. carr.; 720 sq. feet, £10, incl. carr.

EX-ARMY

BELL TENTS

Centre pole, all accessories. Thoroughly reconditioned. Sleeps 8. Height 9 ft. 6 ins., circ. 44 ft., £8 15s. complete.
MARQUEE STYLE RIDGE TENTS. 18 ft. × 16 ft., Height 12 ft., £28 15s. complete Marquee. Enquiries invited.
HEADQUARTER & GENERAL SUPPLIES Ltd., Dept. CN/T/2, Excel House, Excel Court, Whitcomb Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.

Tongue Twister

A NOISY noise annoys an oyster.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Foes of the Farmer. In the woods, beneath the oak trees, thousands of acorns littered the ground.

"I must let my pigs run in here before the Pigeons arrive," remarked Farmer Gray to Don.

"Surely there are sufficient acorns here for pigs and Pigeons," said Don.

"You would change your ideas if you knew the amount of acorns Pigeons eat," replied the farmer. "It is quite a common thing to find 30 or 40 acorns in a Pigeon's crop, and as many as 75 have been recorded. As Pigeons eat grain of all kinds, and also the green tops of young crops, farmers detest them."

Puzzle Limerick

"LET us this young corn if we can,"
Said two setting out with a plan
To a quiet feed,
"For if farmer he'd
Most decidedly put up a ban."

Find the four words of the same five letters differently arranged, which fill these gaps.

Answer next week

SOMETHING FOR FATHER

BUYING a present for father is usually rather a problem. Solve it this way for a change.

Fill a fancy box with an assortment of small things:

Pipe-cleaners, ash try, spills, if he smokes.

Garden twine and seed labels.

A bookmarker, golf tees, collar studs, a notebook pencil.

If you look around you will find quite a lot more inexpensive but extremely useful articles.

FUN WITH CARDS

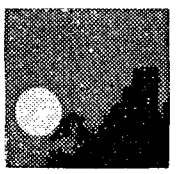
To Guess a Chosen Card, borrow a pack and, as it is handed to you, notice without seeming to, the bottom card. Spread the pack out fanwise (with backs uppermost) in both hands, and ask someone to pick out a card and memorise it.

While this goes on, casually gather the cards together, moving the bottom card out and putting it under all those that were on *top* of the selected card, which must then be put back into its first position, and the pack closed and shuffled a little. After this you pass it to someone else to turn up card by card until you call "stop" when the chosen card comes along.

In the shuffling there is not much risk of separating the original bottom card and the selected one, but if by chance they do get parted, don't be dismayed. It is quite a good idea to misfire now and again, and there is always more applause when the trick is finally successfully completed.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Saturn is low in the north-east. In the morning Saturn is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at five o'clock on Friday evening, November 8.



ONE-TRACK MIND

A FAMOUS singer gave his tailor tickets for one of his concerts and inquired, when next he saw him, how he had enjoyed it.

"Sir, it was terrible," was the reply, "your coat was much too tight across the shoulders!"

The Children's Hour

BBC programmes from Wednesday, November 6, to Tuesday, November 12.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Five O'clock Follies. 5.30 The Young Tree and the Birds. *North*, 5.0 Young Artists; a new Competition. *Northern Ireland*, 5.0 I Want to be an Actor; Important to Us; Story; Gramophone records chosen by children in hospital. *Welsh*, 5.0 The Fairest Abbey in all Wales—history of Neath Abbey.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Dhobi's Donkey. 5.15 As Pretty as a Pigeon and as Sweet as an Apricot—a play. *Midland*, 5.0 A Visit to China; Children in Other Lands; Quill Pens and Barleycorns. *North*, 5.0 Wandering with Nomad; Music by Delius; Hints for Young Rugger Players. *Scottish*, 5.0 Lizzie Leghorn and the Stolen Sweetie Coupons; Serenade for Children; Competition results. *Welsh*, 5.0 Programme in Welsh. 5.30 The Owl and the Pussy-cat (No 3); Write Down Your Answers. *West*, 5.0 The Tale of a Cat (No 3); West-Country Quartet (songs); Egbert in the China Shop.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Seven White Gates (Part 6); Pigeon Post (Part 6).

SATURDAY, 5.0 Nursery Sing-Song; Number Please—work of a telephone operator.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Story told by Uncle Mac; Paul of Tarsus (Part 4). *Northern Ireland*, 5.0 Story for the younger listeners; Mr Murphy and His Donkey Timothy John; Duets for two pianos; Nature Diary—Winter Visitors.

MONDAY, 5.0 Winnie the Pooh (Part 5). 5.25 Music at Random. 5.40 Films Talk by Eric Gillett. *Midland*, 5.25 Alex Penney (songs); It's Good Exercise—a programme on gramophone records.

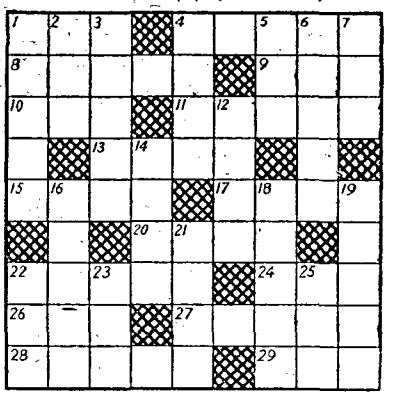
TUESDAY, 5.0 Orlando the Marmalade Cat (No 2). 5.25 Nature Parliament—with L. Hugh Newman and Peter Scott. *Northern Ireland*, 5.0 Rathina (Part 2); Inter-towns Quiz—Bangor v Belfast.

Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 A cave. 4 A sort of treadle. 8 To elevate. 9 To mimic. 10 Skill. 11 An ant. 13 Sparse. 15 A plant's beginning. 17 To capture. 20 The summit. 22 First-rate. 24 A meadow. 26 Sometimes taken when an inch is given. 27 Begins. 28 Yarn made into stockings. 29 To perceive.

Reading Down. 1 Hauls. 2 Organ of hearing. 3 Saltpetre. 4 A nobleman. 5 A barrage. 6 On the point. 7 To allow. 12 To measure. 14 The first man. 16 In good time. 18 Wheel-carriers. 19 To remove. 21 A South American labourer. 22 Mightier than the sword. 23 Unwell. 25 Compass point (abbrev).

Answer next week



GENUINE ANTIQUE

WHAT is the oldest piece of furniture in the world?

The multiplication table

A Farmyard Charade

PUT a number of slips of paper on each of which is written the name of an animal, in a bag or a basket.

Each player in turn draws a slip, reads what is on it, then imitates the animal, copying the noise it makes as well as its walk. The others guess what it is.

English As It Is Spoken

"THE article *a* can only be used with a singular or collective noun," explained the master; "you can say a dog, a woman, a crowd, but not a dogs, a women——"

Interruption by the boy at the bottom of the class:

"Please, sir, what about A-men?"

Answer to Last Week's Picture Problem
The birds which had flown were: Blackbird; Linnet; Nightingale



Drink Delicious

Ovaltine

for Health, Energy and the Will-to-win

PERFECT physical fitness, abundant energy and the will-to-win—these are the qualities you must possess if you are to be successful in sports and games.

Remember that the leading coaches and trainers insist on 'Ovaltine' as an essential part of the training diet for players and athletes in their charge. They know that there is nothing like 'Ovaltine' for building up physical fitness and stamina.

'Ovaltine' has also played an important part in many outstanding feats of endurance. Famous mountaineering expeditions, including the last two Mount Everest Expeditions, carried 'Ovaltine' as an essential part of their high climbing ration. Explorers have taken it to the ends of the earth.

In everyday life, in your school work, the same fitness and vigour are just as valuable. That is why *you* should drink delicious 'Ovaltine' every day. It will keep you fit in body and mind and help you always to do your best.

Prices in Gt. Britain and N. Ireland, 2/4 and 4/- per tin.

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